

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (original): A pProcess for producing xanthohumol present in hops comprising the steps:

- a) preparing an ethanol pure-resin extract from hops, milled hops or hop powder;
- b) extracting the ethanol pure resin extract with a liquid or supercritical solvent in which the xanthohumol is insoluble;
- c) washing with a first solvent mixture the extraction residue obtained after the extraction with the liquid or supercritical solvent and separating off the first solvent mixture and substances dissolved therein;
- d) extracting with a second solvent mixture the xanthohumol from the extraction residue washed with the first solvent mixture, the first solvent mixture being more polar than the second solvent mixture; and
- e) producing from the extracted solution the extract containing the xanthohumol in high purity.

Claim 2 (original): The pProcess according to Claim 1, wherein the ethanol pure resin extract obtained in step a), to obtain a free-flowing material, is mixed with a particulate carrier

before the extraction with the liquid or supercritical solvent in which the xanthohumol is insoluble.

Claim 3 (currently amended) The pProcess according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the liquid or supercritical solvent in which the xanthohumol is insoluble is selected from the group consisting of alkanes having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, petroleum ether and carbon dioxide.

Claim 4 (currently amended) The pProcess according to Claim 2 ~~or 3~~, wherein the particulate carrier is an organic or mineral carrier selected from the group consisting of maltodextrins, silica gels, particulate silicas, kieselguhr and magnesium silicate gels.

Claim 5 (currently amended) The pProcess according to Claim 2 ~~or 3~~, wherein the carrier is kieselguhr.

Claim 6 (currently amended) The pProcess according to ~~one or more of the preceding claims~~2, wherein the ethanol pure resin extract obtained in step a) is mixed with the particulate carrier in a weight ratio of about 1:1.

Claim 7 (currently amended) The pProcess according to ~~one or more of the preceding claims~~1, wherein the ethanol pure resin extract is extracted as under step b) with supercritical CO₂.

Claim 8 (currently amended) The p~~P~~rocess according to ~~one or more of the preceding~~ claims1, wherein the first solvent mixture is a mixture of at least one organic solvent and water.

Claim 9 (currently amended) The p~~P~~rocess according to ~~one or more of the preceding~~ claims8, wherein the at least one organic solvent of the first solvent mixture is miscible with water in any ratio.

Claim 10 (currently amended) The p~~P~~rocess according to ~~one or more of the preceding~~ claims9, wherein the at least one organic solvent of the first solvent mixture is selected from the group consisting of alcohols, ketones and carboxylic esters.

Claim 11 (currently amended) The p~~P~~rocess according to ~~one or more of the preceding~~ claims10, wherein the at least one organic solvent of the first solvent mixture is methanol and/or ethanol.

Claim 12 (currently amended) The p~~P~~rocess according to ~~one or more of the preceding~~ claims10, wherein the at least one organic solvent of the first solvent mixture is methanol.

Claim 13 (currently amended) The p~~P~~rocess according to ~~one or more of the preceding~~ claims9, wherein the weight ratio of the at least one organic solvent to water in the first solvent mixture is 2:3.

Claim 14 (currently amended) The p~~Process according to one or more of the preceding~~
claims1, wherein the second solvent mixture is a mixture of at least one organic solvent and
water.

Claim 15 (currently amended) The p~~Process according to one or more of the preceding~~
claims14, wherein the at least one organic solvent of the second solvent mixture is miscible with
water in any ratio.

Claim 16 (currently amended) The p~~Process according to one or more of the preceding~~
claims15, wherein the at least one organic solvent of the second solvent mixture is selected from
the group consisting of alcohols, ketones and carboxylic esters.

Claim 17 (currently amended) The p~~Process according to one or more of the preceding~~
claims16, wherein the at least one organic solvent of the second solvent mixture is methanol
and/or ethanol.

Claim 18 (currently amended) The p~~Process according to one or more of the preceding~~
claims16, wherein the at least one organic solvent of the second solvent mixture is methanol.

Claim 19 (currently amended) ~~The p~~Process according to ~~one or more of the preceding~~ claims 15, wherein the weight ratio of the at least one organic solvent to water in the second solvent mixture is 2:1.

Claim 20 (currently amended) ~~The p~~Process according to ~~one or more of the preceding~~ claims 1, wherein ~~not only~~ the organic solvent of the first solvent mixture ~~but~~ and also the organic solvent of the second solvent mixture is are both methanol and the ratio of methanol to water in the first solvent mixture is 2:3 and in the second solvent mixture is 2:1.

Claim 21 (currently amended) ~~The p~~Process according to ~~one or more of the preceding~~ claims 1, wherein the hop extract obtained in step e) contains xanthohumol at a concentration of at least 85 percent by weight, based on the dry weight of the resultant hop extract.

Claim 22 (currently amended) ~~The~~ An xanthohumol-containing hop extract obtainable by a process according to ~~one or more of Claims 1 to 21~~.